



**UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE**  
**Patent and Trademark Office**

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*MD*

| APPLICATION NO. | FILING DATE | FIRST NAMED INVENTOR | ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. |
|-----------------|-------------|----------------------|---------------------|
|-----------------|-------------|----------------------|---------------------|

08/962,315 10/31/97 HOUSE

G 067183-0157

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EXAMINER

TUNG, B

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2713

DATE MAILED:

09/16/99

**Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.**

**Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks**

# Office Action Summary

Application No.  
**08/962,315**

Applicant(s)

House

Examiner

**Bryan Tung**

Group Art Unit  
**2713**



☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on \_\_\_\_\_.

☐ This action is **FINAL**.

☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11; 453 O.G. 213.

A shortened statutory period for response to this action is set to expire 3 month(s), or thirty days, whichever is longer, from the mailing date of this communication. Failure to respond within the period for response will cause the application to become abandoned. (35 U.S.C. § 133). Extensions of time may be obtained under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a).

## Disposition of Claims

☒ Claim(s) 1-6 is/are pending in the application.

Of the above, claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.

☒ Claim(s) 1-6 is/are rejected.

☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.

☐ Claims \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction or election requirement.

## Application Papers

☒ See the attached Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review, PTO-948.

☐ The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to by the Examiner.

☐ The proposed drawing correction, filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is ☐ approved ☐ disapproved.

☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

## Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

☒ Acknowledgement is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d).

☒ All ☐ Some\* ☐ None of the CERTIFIED copies of the priority documents have been  
☒ received.

☐ received in Application No. (Series Code/Serial Number) \_\_\_\_\_.

☐ received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\*Certified copies not received: \_\_\_\_\_.

☐ Acknowledgement is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e).

## Attachment(s)

☒ Notice of References Cited, PTO-892

☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s), PTO-1449, Paper No(s). 2 and 4

☐ Interview Summary, PTO-413

☒ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review, PTO-948

☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application, PTO-152

--- SEE OFFICE ACTION ON THE FOLLOWING PAGES ---

Art Unit: 2713

**35 U.S.C. §102**

1. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. § 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless --

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

2. Claims 1-6 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Subbarao (US 4,965,840).

Subbarao discloses a three-dimensional structure estimation apparatus which measures a depth distance to an object comprising: a plurality of cameras having different visual fields and/or different resolutions from each other, conversion means for converting images outputted from the cameras into images whose pixel units are equal in magnitude, and comparing the equal magnitude images to calculate a depth distance. See Fig.6, col.17, ln.8-20, and col.18, ln.13-24.

3. Claims 1-6 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Katsuhiko (JP 8-007102).

Katsuhiko discloses a three-dimensional structure estimation apparatus which measures a depth distance to an object

Serial Number: 08/962,315

Page 3

Art Unit: 2713

comprising: a plurality of cameras having different visual fields and/or different resolutions from each other, conversion means for converting images outputted from the cameras into images whose pixel units are equal in magnitude, and comparing the equal magnitude images to calculate a depth distance. See Abstract.

#### Contact Information

Inquiries concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Bryan S. Tung, whose telephone number is 703-308-6614.

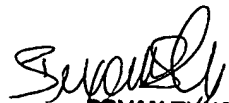
If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Tommy P. Chin, can be reached at 703-305-4715.

Inquiries of a general nature or relating to the status of this application should be directed to the Group receptionist whose telephone number is 703-305-3900.

Fax communications should be sent to 703-308-5359.

Bryan S. Tung/bst

9-14-99

  
**BRYAN TUNG**  
**PRIMARY EXAMINER**